

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BONN 06375 01 OF 02 071856Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 PA-02
SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 ACDE-00
/073 W

-----043765 071905Z /43

O R 071841Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7450
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USNATO
USDEL MC BRUSSELS
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAHINGEN
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 06375

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MPOL, GW, US
SUBJECT: SPEECH BY DEFENSE MINISTER APEL, APRIL 6, 1978

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BONN 06375 01 OF 02 071856Z

1. DEFENSE MINISTER APEL SPOKE BEFORE THE BUNDESWEHR
AND OF ENSUING EXCHANGE WITH PRESS IS NOT AVAILABLE IN
BONN. BELOW ARE A VERBATIM EXCERPT RELATING TO AWACS,
AND OTHER HIGHLIGHTS AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS.

2. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF
TRANSCRIPT PORTION OF APEL SPEECH RELATING TO AWACS

(WE WERE NOT ABLE TO OBTAIN COMPARABLE TRANSCRIPTS OF OTHER PORTIONS).

BEGIN TEXT. AS ARMAMENTS MINISTER, I SHALL ABOVE ALL BE ARMAMENTS FINANCING MINISTER. THE WEAPONS SYSTEMS OF THE NEXT YEARS, EXCEPT AWACS, HAVE MORE OR LESS BEEN DECIDED UPON. LET ME SAY A SENTENCE ABOUT AWACS. WE START THE PARLIMANETARY DISCUSSIONS ON THIS QUESTION NEXT WEDNESDAY (APRIL 12) IN THE BUNDESTAG DEFENSE AND BUDGET COMMITTEES. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD TELL THE BUNDESTAG DELEGATES THE FOLLOWING ON THIS PROBLEM. WE CERTAINLY CANNOT UNDERTAKE THE MILITARY APPROVAL OF AWACS ON A NATIONAL BASIS ALONE. THIS IS RATHER A SUBJECT WHICH HAS TO BE LOOKED AT AND EVALUATED ALLIANCE-WIDE, AND FROM A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW. AWACS IS IMPORTANT FROM THE STANDPOINT OF POLITICAL INTEGRATION. I AM CONVINCED THAT THE ENGAGEMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, HAS PROGRESSED VERY FAR ON THIS QUESTION.

I CANNOT YET SAY, IF WE ARE TO MAKE A POSITIVE DECISION ON AWACS, THAT WE HAVE TO ACCOMMODATE IT IN THE MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING AND IN THE FORCES PLAN. MOREOVER, WE CANNOT PROCEED FROM THE PREMISE THAT THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL MONEY AND POSITIONS FOR AWACS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BONN 06375 01 OF 02 071856Z

AND THE USA MUST DO MUCH MORE IN ORDER TO CONVERT THE ONE-WAY STREET OF ARMAMENT PROCUREMENT INTO A TWO-WAY STREET. WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT WE HAVE DEVELOPED A WHOLE SERIES OF EXCELLENT WEAPON SYSTEMS WHICH ONE CAN MAKE USE OF WITHOUT MUCH ADO. END TEXT.

3. FINANCING. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS APEL ALSO COMMENTED ON FUTURE FINANCING FOR THE BUNDESWEHR. HE SAID HE WOULD INSIST THAT, AS IN THE PAST, THE BUNDESWEHR

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BONN 06375 02 OF 02 071856Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 PA-02
SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 ACDE-00
/073 W

-----043773 071906Z /45

O R 071841Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7451
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USNATO
USDEL MC BRUSSELS
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 06375

WOULD CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO
MAINTAIN SECURITY AND THAT MINIMUM FINANCIAL PLANNING
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BONN 06375 02 OF 02 071856Z

WOULD ALWAYS GENERATE A STEADY GROWTH OF THE DEFENSE
BUDGET, BEARING IN MIND PRESIDENT CARTER'S INITIATIVE
OF A 3 PER ANNUM GROWTH RATE. IN ADDITION, APEL
REPORTEDLY SAID THAT ADDITIONAL MASSIVE FINANCIAL
DEMANDS IN THE DEFENSE SPHERE WOULD MEAN AN OVER-
PROPORTIONAL GROWTH OF DEFENSE EXPENDITURES IN
RELATION TO OTHER SECTORS, COMMENTING THAT THIS
COULD HARDLY BE EXPECTED AT THE PRESENT TIME NOR IN
THE FUTURE. APEL REPORTEDLY SPECIFICALLY CONCEDED

THAT HE HAD DIRECTED THIS REMARK BOTH TO GERMAN AND TO FOREIGN AUDIENCES.

4. ER/RB WEAPON. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS APEL REFERRED TO CONFUSING NEWSPAPER REPORTS ON THE SUBJECT OF THE NEUTRON WEAPON SAYING THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO COMMENT ON THESE. HE ALSO SAID THAT A PRODUCTION DECISION CAN ONLY BE MADE BY THE U.S., WHILE THE USE OF THE ER WEAPON FOR THE COMMON DEFENSE OR FOR ARMS CONTROL PURPOSES WOULD BE A MATTER CONCERNING ALL NATO PARTNERS. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE FRG TAKES THE MATTER OF CONSULTATIONS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE VERY SERIOUSLY, AND THAT THE FRG IS INTERESTED IN THE FORMATION OF A CONSENSUS IN NATO RELATING TO THE ER WEAPON.

5. GENERAL WUST. APEL REPORTEDLY WAS HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY OF GENERAL WUST, AND PARTICULARLY THE MANNER IN WHICH HE HAD ACCEPTED APEL'S DECISION TO SCRAP THE FORCE STRUCTURE PROPOSALS DEVELOPED BY THE GENERAL AND PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE CHANGE IN BUNDESWEHR ORGANIZATION.

6. BUNDESWEHR. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, APEL SAID UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BONN 06375 02 OF 02 071856Z

HE CONSIDERED THAT THE BUNDESWEHR WAS AN INTEGRATED AND ACCEPTED PART OF GERMAN SOCIETY. THIS STANDS IN CONTRAST TO RECENT REMARKS BY PRESIDENT SCHEEL WHICH, WHILE HIGHLY SYMPATHETIC TO THE BUNDESWEHR, SAID THAT THE GERMAN ARMED FORCES WERE NOT SUFFICIENTLY INTEGRATED INTO GERMAN SOCIETY.
STOESSEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AWACS, AIR DEFENSE, MILITARY BUDGET, WARNING SYSTEMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN06375
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780151-0207
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780482/aaaacrwo.tel
Line Count: 207
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d1a9d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3046194
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPEECH BY DEFENSE MINISTER APEL, APRIL 6, 1978 UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: MPOL, GE, US
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d1a9d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014